

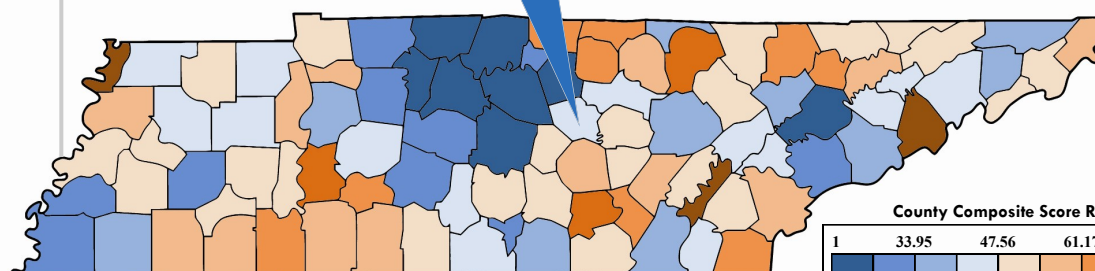
# The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

## SNAPSHOT: DeKALB COUNTY

2012

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County Composite Score Ranges



Ranges defined as 0.5 standard deviations from the mean score of 47.56.

Population (2010): 18,723

Pop. Density: 57/square mile

Seat of Government: Smithville

Largest City: Smithville

COUNTY	RANK	INDICATOR	DATA	RANK
Franklin	27	Employment and Earnings Composite	41	31 ▲
Anderson	28	Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females*	\$32,283	12 ▲
Roane	29	Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Male Earnings)	102.26%	1 ▲
Gibson	30	Female Labor Force Participation Rate (Ages 20-64)	63.5%	62 ▼
Jefferson	31	Female Unemployment Rate (Ages 20-64)	9.0%	57 ▼
Lincoln	32	Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	29.7%	73 ▼
Loudon	33	Economic Autonomy Composite	45.13	45 ▼
Obion	34	Women-owned Businesses Percent of Total	24.2%	42 ▼
Greene	35	Percent of Females with 4-Year Degree or More (Age 25+)	13.5%	42 ▲
DeKalb	36	Percent of Females with High School Diploma or Equivalent (Age 25+)	70.3%	89 ▼
Putnam	37	Female High School Dropout Rate	0.15%	13 ▲
Hamblen	38	Percent of Women Uninsured (65 and under)	17.4%	76 ▼
Carroll	39	Percent of Females Below Poverty Level	20.7%	57 ▲
Hickman	40	Percent of Female-Headed Households with Children in Poverty*	43.6%	41 ▲
Marshall	41	Rate of Pregnancy for Girls Age 15-19 per 1000*	0	1 ▲
Bradley	42	<b>County Overview:</b> DeKalb County is home to what may be a historic milestone for Tennessee; women in the county are estimated to earn 2.3 percent <i>more</i> than their male counterparts. This unique news, which contributed greatly to DeKalb's increase to the 36th overall rank in the state, was fueled by extremely strong growth in reported earnings and by a rise in women with degrees, but it was also a product of stagnant male wages in the county and likely had only a moderately positive impact on many households. Additionally, sluggish workforce participation, high unemployment and increases in poverty continue to weigh on the women of DeKalb County.		
Henry	43			
Giles	44			
McMinn	45			

Up from 48th

Note: all figures are based on estimates formed from sample data and are subject to sample error and rounding.

\* The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual demographic survey of the U.S. It provides the detailed demographic, economic and housing data that was once supplied by the Decennial Census Long Form. The ACS has a smaller sample so combines several years' data to produce multi-year estimates. Due to the small sample size there is an increased margin of error in many less populated counties for this indicator.

\*\* The 2005 County by County figures were based on a sample of girls age 10-19, whereas the 2012 report reflects the population of girls age 15-19.

† ACS sampling sizes are insufficient to publish certain figures for this category. An estimate was developed from the performance of surrounding counties for the purposes of creating a composite score.

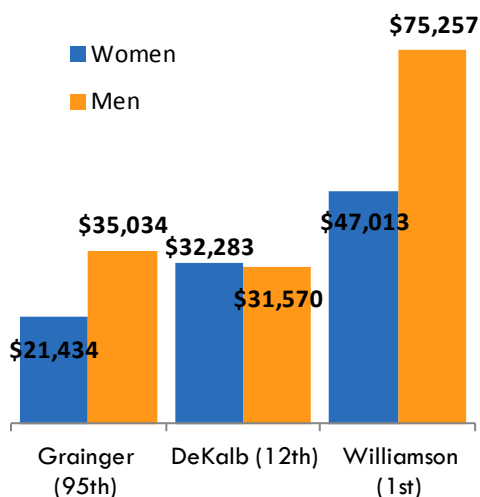
‡ Estimates are too unreliable or not available to be included in composite calculations. Any figure shown is an estimate for the reader's benefit only.

# The Status of Women in: DeKalb County

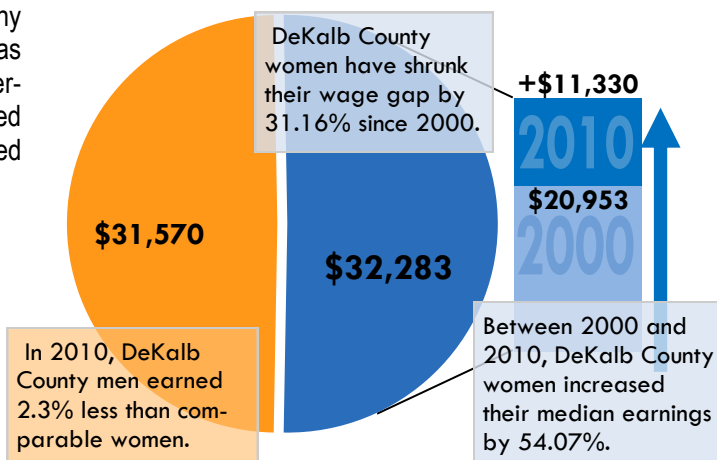
## ▲ Earnings

**D**eKalb County women have seen the highest growth in median income since 2000, of any county in the state; shattering inflation rates as well as local male earnings, which increased by only 9.5 percent during the same period. In dollars, women added \$11,330 to their median income, while men added \$2,800 and women statewide improved by \$10,219.

### Median Earnings: Counties Compared



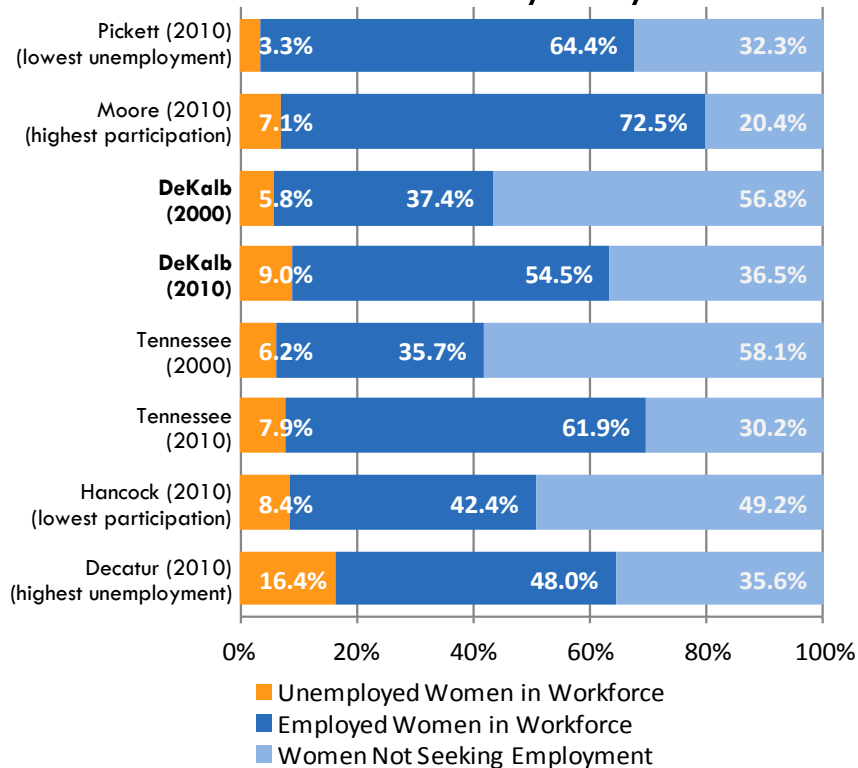
### Median Earnings and the Wage Gap, 2000-2010



**Rising** from 51st in median income in 2000 to 12th in 2010, women are now estimated to make slightly more than their male counterparts in DeKalb County, gaining the top rank in the wage gap indicator with a 2.3 percent advantage. In addition to being a significant jump from 55th ten years prior, this likely marks the first time in recent history that estimates have indicated a female advantage in wages in one of Tennessee's counties. Unfortunately, this trend was aided by dreary male earnings growth, which culminated in the 83rd male income statewide.

## ▼ Employment

### Workforce Access for Women By County and Year

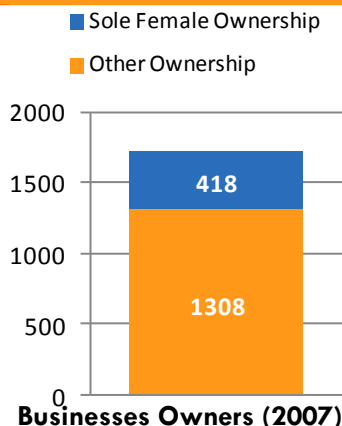


**Historic** gains in median income and wages relative to men in the county have been blunted by sluggish workforce participation and unemployment rates, both of which have fallen out of the top third of rankings since 2000.

Women in DeKalb County are now 7.4 percent less likely to be working or looking for work than statewide figures indicate, and dropped from 33rd to 62nd in this measure despite working at a slightly higher rate in 2000.

Unemployment figures have also compared unfavorably statewide, reaching nine percent among women and dropping to 57th in 2010. By comparison, men are searching for work at a rate of 8.3 percent, and single women with children under six are estimated to be nearly twice as likely to be unemployed.

# The Status of Women in: DeKalb County



**Business** ownership figures in DeKalb County echo the declining presence of women in the workforce, decreasing by 5.5 percent between 2000 and 2007, and falling to 42nd place in the state. As of 2007, women were estimated to own slightly less than one-fourth of the businesses in DeKalb, with a similar amount likely owned jointly by men and women, and the remaining majority owned solely by men or publicly traded.

The percentage of managerial positions held by women has increased, but by only 2.5 percent. This slow expansion resulted in a drop in rank as well, from 47th to 73rd.

## Women At Work

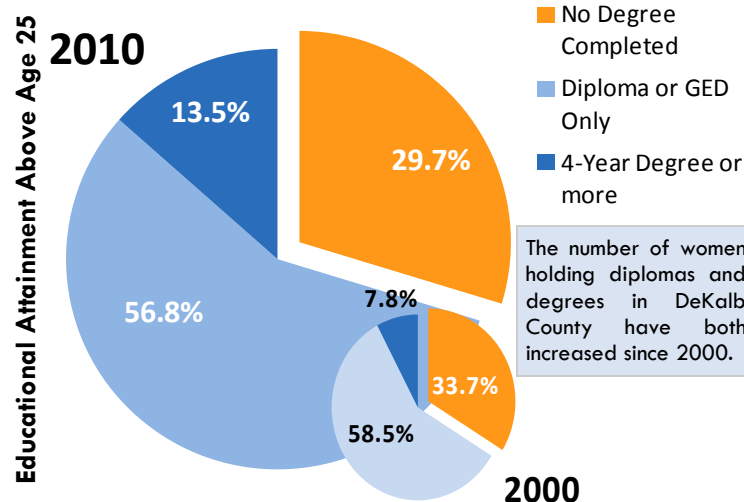
### Business Management

The incidence of women managers in DeKalb County has increased from 27.2% to 29.7% between 2000 and 2010.

### Business Ownership

The percentage of women business owners in DeKalb County decreased from 29.7% to 24.2% between 2000 and 2007.

## Education



**Academic** figures reveal a mixed experience for DeKalb County women between 2000 and 2010. In good news, the percentage of women with college degrees in the county is nearly twice what it was in 2000, becoming the 42nd highest rate in the state.

In contrast, however, the proportion of women holding diplomas in the county was only 4 percent higher in 2010, and dropped from 67th in the state to 89th in relative rankings. This remains lower than the statewide average, and is, in fact, still lower than the 2000 statewide rate of 76.3 percent.

Outpacing statewide trends, female dropouts diminished enough in DeKalb to improve in rank from 50th to 13th, with a rate of 0.15 percent during the 2011-12 school year.

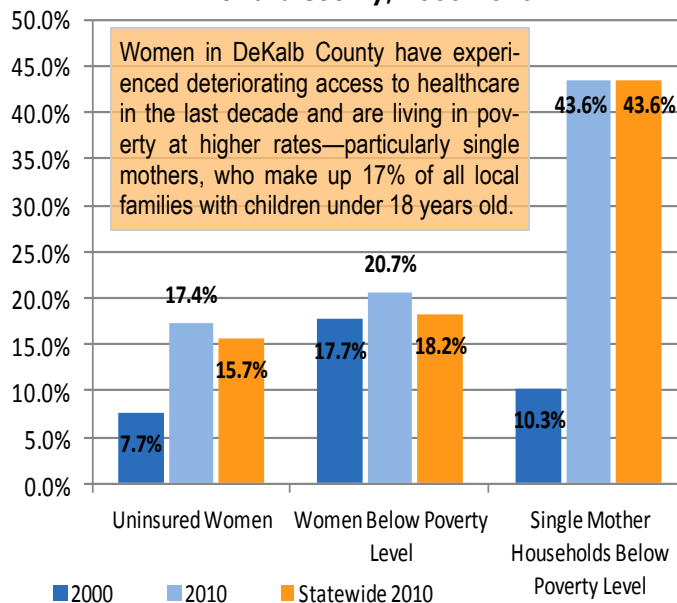
## Living

**Tremendous** growth in income has seemed to insulate some women in DeKalb County from the most extreme effects of the economic downturn. Specifically when considered as a whole, women in the county have seen slower growth in overall poverty than many counties. Indeed, the increase of three percent was slow enough to improve the county's relative ranking from 69th to 57th, despite a rise in unemployment.

Single mothers endured a much greater jump during that time; they are now four times as likely to live in poverty as they were in 2000, and are twice as likely to do so as the average women in the county. Highlighting the bleak situation for this population statewide, DeKalb's experience was on par with statewide figures in this measure and actually improved in rank relative to its peers, from 62nd to 41st.

Women in the county also endure significantly impaired access to healthcare in 2010 relative to 2000, when nearly 10 percent more women were insured.

## Health and Poverty Indicators for Women: DeKalb County, 2000-2010



# About the Council and this Report

The **Status of Women in Tennessee Counties** report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of management occupations held by women.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of women with any kind of health insurance, percentage of women living in poverty and percentage of single female-headed households living in poverty, the female high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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Visit the Economic Council on Women at [www.tennesseewomen.org](http://www.tennesseewomen.org)

SOURCES	
Employment and Earnings	
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics' *
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as Percent of Male Earnings)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics'
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Occupation by Sex and Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months for Full-Time, Year-Round Civilian Employed Population, 16 year and older'
Economic Autonomy	
Women-Owned Businesses Percent of Total	U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners 'Statistics for All U.S. Firms by Industry, Gender, Ethnicity, and Race...' † ‡
Percent of Females with 4-Yr Degree or More (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Percent of Females with High School Diploma (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Female High School Dropout Rate	Tennessee Department of Education, 2011-2012 School Year
Percent of Women Uninsured (65 or under)	U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
Percent of Women Below Poverty Level	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months'
Percent of Female-headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families' *
Rate of Pregnancy for Girls 15-19 (per 1000)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Fertility' *

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